BuckEye

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS **BUILDING STRONG®**

Background

The BuckEye Program was born in 2004 out of the need to rapidly collect, process, and distribute unclassified high resolution and high accuracy color imagery for tactical missions. BuckEye began with a helicopter-mounted digital color camera that produced high-resolution imagery for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR); as well as, change detection missions. As BuckEye capabilities evolved, a Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) sensor was added to collect high-resolutions, high-accuracy elevation data in supporting improved battlefield visualization and line of sight analysis.

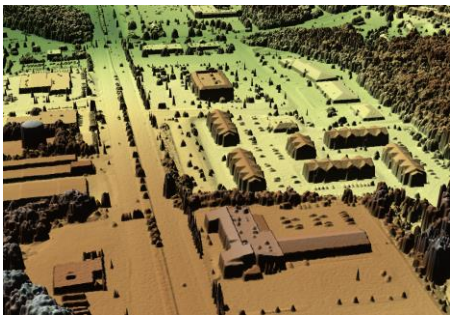
Today, there are three variations of aerial platforms, the Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), the Enhanced Capability (EC), and the BuckEye 2.

Capabilities

-Typical mission duration is 8 hours with 5 hours of data collection and 80-1400km2 of data collected (Dependent on travel time to the collection site and BuckEye platform).
- Data is unclassified and shareable (customer determines releasability)
- Products (point clouds, Digital Elevation Model, Imagery mosaics) are delivered in a variety of common file formats (.sid, .tif, .laz, .pdf) which allow for ease of use.

Operations

- 2004-2010 supported OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM
- 2006-2014 supported OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM
- 2014-present currently supporting CENTCOM, PACOM and AFRICOM requirements



- A BuckEye fixed-wing system has been operating in Jordan since August 2014
- A BuckEye fixed-wing system has been operating in the Philippines since December 2014
- A BuckEye fixed-wing system has been operating in East Africa since October 2015

The Army Geospatial Center (AGC) strives to make BuckEye data readily available to our fighting forces and supporting agencies. Data is pushed to requesting units on media, and distributed via the Internet on all Department of Defense (DoD) networks. As soon as imagery and LIDAR data are received at AGC from the forward locations, they are quality-checked and posted to the Center's web sites. Other products available on-line, or through the AGC Dissemination Team, include image mosaics as GeoPDF Mapbooks, Geocoded Images, and high-resolution Urban Tactical Planner databases.

Future Developments: BuckEye continues to investigate collection technologies for improved support to tactical forces.

Points of Contact: E-mail inquiries to: BuckEye@usace.army.mil

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